

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2020
SPECIAL MEETING OF SESSION

On Wednesday, July 8, 2020, the Session of Westminster Presbyterian Church held a special Zoom meeting. Reverend Rogers served as Moderator and opened the meeting with prayer at 7:03 p.m.

Session members attending were Rev. Rogers, Rev. Freyer and Elders Bacik, Burgess, Castelli, Conley, Dilly, Fraser, Galbreath, Jenkins, LeBeau, Lee, McClintock-Comeaux, O'Brien, Paul, Rex, Sheap, Wagner, Walker, Weber and Williams, constituting a quorum.

Excused: Dr. Lancaster

BUSINESS ITEMS

Vision Task Force Recommendation. At its June 24, 2020 special meeting Session scheduled this follow up meeting to confirm that conditions warrant proceeding to reopen for in-person worship beginning on July 19, 2020, in the manner set forth in Dr. Lancaster's letter to the congregation dated June 30, 2020. Session engaged in a thorough and thoughtful discussion on whether it would be appropriate to reopen for in-person worship, in light of the present COVID-19 pandemic statistics for Allegheny County. In light of said statistics, Session unanimously decided to suspend in-person worship for the foreseeable future and to schedule a special meeting for July 27 to review current COVID-19 pandemic statistics for Allegheny County and determine whether in-person worship can proceed in a safe fashion. Meanwhile services will continue by streaming on the internet.

Black Lives Matter Vigil. Elder Conley presented a proposal for first reading from the Outreach and Peace and Justice commissions that Westminster Church organize and sponsor an interfaith vigil in support of black lives. A committee will be formed to bring a formal proposal for Session approval at its August regular meeting.

Marriages.

Dr. Lancaster advised Session that Carolyn Painter and Mark Matthews will be married at Westminster Church on September 19, 2020. Reverend Freyer will officiate at the wedding, but will no longer be on staff at Westminster. Upon motion made and duly seconded, Session approved Reverend Freyer to perform the Painter/Matthews wedding ceremony.

On August 1, 2020, Kevin McGuire and Sarah Coblenz will be married at Westminster Church with Reverend Rogers officiating. The families and all individuals involved in the wedding will be abiding by the PA state protocols along with the protocols established by the Westminster Church Session. If the state protocols change to limit such gatherings

prior to August 1, the families are aware that the wedding cannot be celebrated at the church at this time.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

This special meeting will be the last meeting attended by Reverend Freyer as he prepares for his call to the Laboratory Presbyterian Church. Reverend Freyer took this opportunity to express his appreciation for his time at Westminster Church. Members of Session likewise expressed their joy and appreciation for Jason's service and contribution to the church and the church's youth.

ADJOURNMENT WITH PRAYER

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with prayer at 8:02 p.m. A special meeting of Session will be held on July 27, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

H. Brian Peck
Clerk of Session

Approved: August 17, 2020